

HONORING HUGH GOODWIN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin upon being honored with the "Trail Blazers Award" by the African American Museum. Mr. Goodwin will be honored at the African American History Month Celebration and Banquet on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Hugh Wesley Goodwin, Sr. was born on May 6, 1921 to James and Anna Goodwin. He was the youngest of seven children. The family settled in Steelton, Pennsylvania where his father worked both as a steel worker and a Baptist minister. Mr. Goodwin served in the military during World War II. Upon his discharge he graduated from Harvard Law School and moved to California to practice law.

Mr. Goodwin was the first African American lawyer and judge in Fresno County. He opened his law practice in Fresno during the early 1950's. In 1957 Mr. Goodwin married Frances Jones. Together they raised four children; Hugh, Paul, Anna and Tom.

Over the next fifty years, Mr. Goodwin continuously advocated for disadvantaged people and challenged the racial boundaries at the time. Through his perseverance and advocacy, he earned a wide range of respect from his peers, as well as members of the community. Mr. Goodwin was very active in the community. He was a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission Legal Council and volunteered at the Fresno Rescue Mission. Mr. Goodwin served as President of the Fresno Black Caucus and President of the West Fresno Little League. After the little league games, Mr. Goodwin would take the scores and highlights to The Fresno Bee to be published in the paper the next day. He was a devout Christian; he attended Second Baptist Church and served many years as a deacon and a Sunday school teacher.

In 1976, Mr. Goodwin was appointed to the municipal court bench in Fresno County. While serving on the bench, he gained national attention when he sentenced convicted defendants to church rather than serving jail time or paying fines. Throughout the controversy, he remained committed to his beliefs. Mr. Goodwin returned to private practice in 1978 and remained practicing until 1996. Mr. Goodwin passed away in 2004.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Hugh Goodwin. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

HONORING SUSANNE SCHOLZ OF
LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susanne Scholz on the occasion of her retirement as executive director of the Lake County Land

Trust. Susanne is a tireless advocate for the environmental protection of Lake County who will be missed by everyone in the conservation community.

Mrs. Scholz grew up in Alberta, Canada and received her B.A. with honors in liberal arts from Sonoma State University. She was a founding member of the Lake County Land Trust in 1993 and became executive director in 2000. Mrs. Scholz is an accomplished writer as well; she is a popular local nature columnist who also authored an anthology of poems and short stories. Suzanne is an avid birder and a knowledgeable naturalist whose keen skills of observation have enhanced her connection to the land and ability to serve in her position.

Mrs. Scholz has not only dedicated her professional skills to the conservation movement but her personal time as well. She serves as the membership chair for Redbud Audubon Society and is a member of the Lake County Grading Ordinance Committee, Lake County Resource Advisory Committee for the Secure Rural Schools Program, and she is a former board member of the Anderson Marsh Interpretative Association.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Susanne Scholz for her years of dedication and service on behalf of Lake County. She has been an exceedingly intelligent, reliable and professional executive director of the Land Trust who oversaw a vast expansion of conservation in Lake County. I join her husband Jim in thanking Susanne and wishing her a lifetime of fulfillment.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL VARNER
AS THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Varner upon receiving the Escambia County, Florida Teacher of the Year Award. For thirty-five years, Mr. Varner has been an inspiration to his students, his colleagues, and his community, and I am honored to recognize his achievements.

After receiving his Bachelor of Science Education Degree and from the University of West Florida, Mr. Varner began his teaching career at J.M. Tate High School in 1975. For thirty-five years, Mr. Varner has been at the vanguard of teaching at Tate. He taught anatomy and physiology for eleven years, botany for ten years, and biology for thirty-five years. He has also worked as a Dual-Enrolled instructor with Pensacola Junior College for fourteen years. Since 2004, he has served as an adjunct professor at PJC. Mr. Varner is a member and a leader of the National Association of Biology Teachers (NABT) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

Mr. Varner has been widely recognized and honored for his years of teaching the students at Tate High School. He received the Tate Teacher of the Year Award in 1976, 1990, and 2010 and has been nominated twice for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Program. From 1998 to

2004, he was a top ten finalist for the NABT Outstanding Biology Teacher in Florida, and in 2005, Mr. Varner earned the NABT Florida Outstanding Biology Teacher Award.

Beyond the awards and the achievements, Mr. Varner is a top-notch teacher and a dedicated public servant. He goes above and beyond the call of duty to serve his students, utilizing real-world techniques to teach them concepts beyond the classroom. His students sign contracts, receive job orders, and earn paychecks for work completed. When the Tate administration was faced with canceling a dual-enrollment biology class because of low enrollment, Mr. Varner volunteered to sacrifice one of his planning periods to teach the class in spite of the cutback. His innovative methods of teaching have been adapted and utilized by dozens of other faculty members.

Mr. Varner's tremendous efforts extend well outside of his biology classroom. He served as the Senior Executive Board Advisor for nine years, teaching students to lead others and inspiring them to achieve success. He has also served as a scoutmaster, youth and music minister, and a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life. Mr. Varner is also known as the voice of Tate's band, the Showband of the South, and is commonly viewed as the custodian of the cultural history of Tate High School.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Michael Varner as the Escambia Teacher of the Year. He is a dedicated teacher, an inspiration to his students, and an honorable public servant. Vicki and I wish Mr. Varner, his wife Kathleen, and his sons, Jason and Brian, all the best for the future.

HONORING AMANDA PRUNTY,
SAMANTHA O'ROURKE, CEDRIC
WILSON, AND ALLISON
MENDITTO FOR WINNING THE
HONORING OUR FUTURE LEADERS
COMPETITION**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge four students in my district, Amanda Prunty, Samantha O'Rourke, Cedric Wilson, and Allison Menditto, from Bay Shore High School.

These students will receive the Honoring Our Future Leaders Award on February 27, 2010. To win this award, they wrote their own rendition of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am proud to honor Amanda, Samantha, Cedric, and Allison for their academic and personal achievements and congratulate them upon the receipt of this prestigious award.

HONORING WAYNE WERTS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of